



## CITY OF COMMERCE AGENDA REPORT

**TO:** Honorable City Council

**Item No. \_\_\_\_\_**

**FROM:** City Administrator

**SUBJECT:** LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION  
AUTHORITY: 2016 MEASURE M BALLOT MEASURE- UPDATE

**MEETING DATE:** September 6, 2016

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The City Council will receive a status report on the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's Measure M ballot measure scheduled for the 2016 November 8, 2016 election.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Measure M on the November 2016 ballot would raise the Los Angeles County sales tax by one-half-percent, and would continue another earlier one-half-percent increase in perpetuity, which would have otherwise expired. The Measure requires a two-thirds vote to pass and has already been the subject of controversy.

If Measure M passes, taxpayers in about 50 communities representing at least 3 million residents will be paying for Measure M forever, but won't see any traffic relief on their freeways and roads for decades.

On March 24, 2016, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority released a draft Expenditure Plan as a part of the Los Angeles County Traffic Improvement Plan Ordinance. This initial plan identified the I-5 Freeway Expansion Project (north of the I-605 to I-710) for funding and starting construction in the year 2041, over twenty (20) years following the completion of the southern segment.

On June 23, 2016, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Board approved a Transportation Expenditure Plan for the general election scheduled for the November 8, 2016 ballot.

On June 30, 2016, the South Bay Cities COG Board of Directors voted to oppose the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's proposed countywide transportation sales tax measure.

On July 6, 2016, the Gateway Cities Council of Governments (GCCOG) Board of Directors voted to oppose the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's proposed countywide transportation sales tax measure [Measure M].

On July 19, 2016, the City Council approved and adopted Resolution No. 16-95 opposing the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's Measure R [Measure M] Expenditure Plan scheduled for the November 8, 2016 election.

On August 3, 2016, GCCOG Board approved a contract with The Lew Edwards Group for a public information program related to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Measure M ballot measure.

On August 16, 2016, the City Council approved and adopted Resolution No. 16-106 approving the appropriation of \$20,000 from the FY 2016/2017 operating budget to prepare educational materials for outreach to the Commerce community on the impact of the proposed Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Measure R-2 [Measure M] transportation plan scheduled for the November ballot.

On August 26, 2016, the City of Carson sent out a press release declaring that Measure M, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's proposed transportation sales tax increase on the November 8<sup>th</sup> general election ballot, is misleading and unclear to taxpayers, residents and the general public, and filed a lawsuit asking the courts for help.

#### **ANALYSIS:**

The City of Commerce, in collaboration with the GCCOG and the South Bay cities, will embark on a local and countywide educational outreach campaign on Measure M in the coming weeks.

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Provide staff with further direction.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

This activity may be carried out without additional impact on the current operating budget.

#### **RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC GOALS:**

This item before the City Council is applicable to the following Council 2012 Strategic Goals:

- *Grow revenues to ensure all expenses are being met so that we can remain fiscally responsible and continue to provide services to the residents*
- *Improve and maintain infrastructure and beautify our community*
- *Develop a tangible environmental mitigation plan.*

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